

SB3306



98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

SB3306

Introduced 2/14/2014, by Sen. Chapin Rose

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 947/35

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. With respect to the Monetary Award Program, provides that the Illinois Student Assistance Commission shall, twice a year (instead of each year), receive and consider applications for grant assistance. Provides that the first application period for grants for the next academic year shall be open to all eligible students and the second application period shall occur immediately before commencement of the academic year and shall be open only to non-traditional students and traditional students who missed the first application deadline due to unforeseen circumstances, as defined by the Commission. Requires the Commission to apportion grant funds between persons who applied during the first application period and person who applied during the second application period, in such manner as the Commission shall determine. Effective immediately.

LRB098 19694 NHT 55570 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
5 amended by changing Section 35 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/35)

7 Sec. 35. Monetary award program.

8 (a) The Commission shall, twice a ~~each~~ year, receive and
9 consider applications for grant assistance under this Section.
10 The first application period for grants for the next academic
11 year shall be open to all eligible students who are applying
12 for a grant. The second application period for grants for the
13 next academic year shall occur immediately before commencement
14 of that academic year and shall be open only to non-traditional
15 students, as defined by the Commission, or traditional students
16 who missed the first application deadline due to unforeseen
17 circumstances, as defined by the Commission. The Commission
18 shall apportion grant funds between persons who applied during
19 the first application period and person who applied during the
20 second application period, in such manner as the Commission
21 shall determine. Subject to a separate appropriation for the
22 ~~such~~ purposes of this Section, an applicant is eligible for a
23 grant under this Section when the Commission finds that the

1 applicant:

2 (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or
3 permanent resident of the United States; and

4 (2) in the absence of grant assistance, will be
5 deterred by financial considerations from completing an
6 educational program at the qualified institution of his or
7 her choice.

8 (b) The Commission shall award renewals only upon the
9 student's application and upon the Commission's finding that
10 the applicant:

11 (1) has remained a student in good standing;

12 (2) remains a resident of this State; and

13 (3) is in a financial situation that continues to
14 warrant assistance.

15 (c) All grants shall be applicable only to tuition and
16 necessary fee costs. The Commission shall determine the grant
17 amount for each student, which shall not exceed the smallest of
18 the following amounts:

19 (1) subject to appropriation, \$5,468 for fiscal year
20 2009, \$5,968 for fiscal year 2010, and \$6,468 for fiscal
21 year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, or such lesser
22 amount as the Commission finds to be available, during an
23 academic year;

24 (2) the amount which equals 2 semesters or 3 quarters
25 tuition and other necessary fees required generally by the
26 institution of all full-time undergraduate students; or

1 (3) such amount as the Commission finds to be
2 appropriate in view of the applicant's financial
3 resources.

4 Subject to appropriation, the maximum grant amount for
5 students not subject to subdivision (1) of this subsection (c)
6 must be increased by the same percentage as any increase made
7 by law to the maximum grant amount under subdivision (1) of
8 this subsection (c).

9 "Tuition and other necessary fees" as used in this Section
10 include the customary charge for instruction and use of
11 facilities in general, and the additional fixed fees charged
12 for specified purposes, which are required generally of
13 nongrant recipients for each academic period for which the
14 grant applicant actually enrolls, but do not include fees
15 payable only once or breakage fees and other contingent
16 deposits which are refundable in whole or in part. The
17 Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with this
18 Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation of
19 tuition and other necessary fees.

20 (d) No applicant, including those presently receiving
21 scholarship assistance under this Act, is eligible for monetary
22 award program consideration under this Act after receiving a
23 baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135 semester credit
24 hours of award payments.

25 (e) The Commission, in determining the number of grants to
26 be offered, shall take into consideration past experience with

1 the rate of grant funds unclaimed by recipients. The Commission
2 shall notify applicants that grant assistance is contingent
3 upon the availability of appropriated funds.

4 (f) The Commission may request appropriations for deposit
5 into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund. Monies deposited
6 into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund may be expended
7 exclusively for one purpose: to make Monetary Award Program
8 grants to eligible students. Amounts on deposit in the Monetary
9 Award Program Reserve Fund may not exceed 2% of the current
10 annual State appropriation for the Monetary Award Program.

11 The purpose of the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund is
12 to enable the Commission each year to assure as many students
13 as possible of their eligibility for a Monetary Award Program
14 grant and to do so before commencement of the academic year.
15 Moneys deposited in this Reserve Fund are intended to enhance
16 the Commission's management of the Monetary Award Program,
17 minimizing the necessity, magnitude, and frequency of
18 adjusting award amounts and ensuring that the annual Monetary
19 Award Program appropriation can be fully utilized.

20 (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of and
21 make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified for-profit
22 institutions in accordance with the criteria set forth in this
23 Section. The eligibility of applicants enrolled at such
24 for-profit institutions shall be limited as follows:

25 (1) Beginning with the academic year 1997, only to
26 eligible first-time freshmen and first-time transfer

1 students who have attained an associate degree.

2 (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to
3 eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have
4 attained an associate degree, and students who receive a
5 grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and
6 whose grants are being renewed for the academic year 1998.

7 (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all
8 eligible students.

9 (Source: P.A. 95-917, eff. 8-26-08.)

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
11 becoming law.